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6 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
7 FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA  
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9 DAVID MICHAEL SCHWARTZ, )

10 Plaintiff, )

11 vs. )

12 CITY OF PHOENIX, a municipal corporation, )  
13 STEFANI MCMICHAEL, MICHAEL )  
14 SECHEZ, STUART STERLING, DAVID )  
15 LUNDBERG, )

16 Defendants. )  
17  
18

No. CIV 96-1727-PHX-ROS

**ORDER**

19 On July 24, 1996, Plaintiff filed a Complaint alleging that Defendants, the City of Phoenix and four of  
20 its police officers, violated his constitutional rights when they obtained and executed two search warrants,  
21 seized property belonging to Plaintiff, and failed to return the property to Plaintiff. By Order of March 31,  
22 1999, as amended by Order of April 8, 1999, the Court granted Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment  
23 in part. The Motion was granted in favor of Defendant City of Phoenix on all of Plaintiff's federal claims (the  
24 First, Fourth, and Fifth Amendment claims), and in favor of the individual Defendants on the claims of taking  
25 in violation of the Fifth Amendment and retaliation in violation of the First Amendment.

26 The text of the Order indicated that the Court would grant the individual Defendants' request for  
27 summary judgment on the Fourth Amendment claim in part and deny it in part, and indicated that an opinion  
28 setting forth the Court's findings of fact and conclusions of law with respect to the Fourth Amendment claim  
would be forthcoming. On the order line, instead of explaining which portion of the request for summary  
judgment on the Fourth Amendment claim was granted and which was denied, the Court denied the individual

1 Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment on the Fourth Amendment claim, as well as denying summary  
2 judgment on the supplemental state claims of negligence and conversion. In the first portion of the current  
3 Order, the Court sets forth its findings of fact and conclusions of law regarding the Fourth Amendment claim,  
4 grants the claim in part, and denies it in part. In the second portion of the Order, the Court addresses the issue  
5 of the deadline for discovery.

6 **I. Fourth Amendment Claim of Unreasonable Seizure**

7 By Order entered in January 1998 denying Defendants' initial summary judgment motion, the Court  
8 clarified its prior December 1996 Order, explaining that "Plaintiff's Fourth Amendment claim alleging the  
9 unlawful seizure of his property is still pending." (Order at 21, Dkt. # 60). However, some confusion  
10 apparently remained about the factual basis of Plaintiff's illegal seizure claim. In their second motion for  
11 summary judgment, Defendants focus their arguments regarding this claim on three issues: whether probable  
12 cause existed to issue the warrants, whether the warrants described the items to be seized with sufficient  
13 particularity, and whether the items seized fell within the scope of the warrants. (Defendants' Second Mot.  
14 for Summ. J. at 6-8, dkt. # 79).

15 In his response, Plaintiff does not address the issue of probable cause. With respect to the allegedly  
16 illegal August 1994 search and seizure at 1040 East Indian School Road, Plaintiff argues only that some of the  
17 property seized was beyond the scope of the warrant. With respect to the allegedly illegal September 1994  
18 search of the storage locker, Plaintiff argues both that the warrant was facially overbroad and that some of the  
19 property seized was beyond the scope of the warrant. Defendants addressed Plaintiff's arguments in their  
20 reply. Therefore, the Court will base its analysis upon the Fourth Amendment claims as stated  
21 by Plaintiff.

22 **A. Whether Claims are Barred by Heck v. Humphrey**

23 Plaintiff cannot maintain a section 1983 action to recover damages for "harm caused by actions whose  
24 unlawfulness would render [his] conviction or sentence invalid" because the conviction and sentence have not  
25 been reversed, expunged, declared invalid by a state tribunal, or called into question upon issuance of a writ  
26 of habeas corpus by a federal court. See Heck v. Humphrey, 512 U.S. 477, 486-87 (1994). Plaintiff can  
27 seek damages for an allegedly unreasonable search and seizure that did not produce evidence introduced at  
28

1 his criminal trial.<sup>1</sup> See id. at 487 n.7. Moreover, due to the existence of doctrines including independent  
2 source, inevitable discovery, and harmless error, a successful challenge by Plaintiff to the legality of a search  
3 and seizure that did produce evidence admitted at his criminal trial ““would not necessarily imply that the  
4 plaintiff’s conviction was unlawful.””<sup>2</sup> Trimble v. City of Santa Rosa, 49 F.3d 583, 585 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995)

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6       <sup>1</sup> The relevant text of Heck followed by the footnote reads:

7               But if the district court determines that the plaintiff’s action, even if successful, will not  
8 demonstrate the invalidity of any outstanding criminal judgment against the plaintiff, the action  
9 should be allowed to proceed . . .

10              7. For example, a suit for damages attributable to an allegedly unreasonable search may  
11 lie even if the challenged search produced evidence that was introduced in a state criminal trial  
12 resulting in the § 1983 plaintiff’s still-outstanding conviction. Because of doctrines like  
13 independent source and inevitable discovery . . . and especially harmless error . . . such a §  
14 1983 action, even if successful, would not necessarily imply that the plaintiff’s conviction was  
15 unlawful. In order to recover compensatory damages, however, the § 1983 plaintiff must  
prove not only that the search was unlawful, but that it caused him actual, compensable injury  
... which, we hold today, does not encompass the “injury” of being convicted and imprisoned  
(until his conviction has been overturned).

16 512 U.S. at 487 & n.7 (citations omitted).

17       <sup>2</sup> The Ninth Circuit has not yet had an opportunity to fully interpret footnote seven, but other circuit  
18 courts have divergent interpretations of the footnote’s meaning. In Trimble, 49 F.3d at 585, the Ninth Circuit  
19 cited the portion of footnote seven set forth above in the text, but then determined that the plaintiff’s Fourth  
20 Amendment claim had to be dismissed because the plaintiff had not alleged an actual compensable injury  
caused by the purported illegal search other than his conviction and sentence. Therefore, the Ninth Circuit was  
21 not required to determine whether the evidence resulting from the purported search impacted the validity of  
the conviction. Because the Ninth Circuit did not engage in this inquiry, it is unclear whether the Ninth Circuit  
22 interprets footnote seven as creating an automatic exception to the bar of Heck for claims alleging violations  
of the Fourth Amendment, or as requiring analysis of whether the underlying conviction would remain valid  
23 absent the challenged evidence. Moreover, because the Ninth Circuit analyzed the plaintiff’s Fourth  
Amendment claims separately from his Fifth and Sixth Amendment claims, it is unclear whether the court  
24 considers the analysis required by footnote seven applicable to constitutional claims other than Fourth  
Amendment claims, i.e., it is unclear whether the Ninth Circuit would require district courts hearing § 1983  
25 actions to apply doctrines such as harmless error and independent source to determine the validity of  
26 convictions based on evidence challenged on Fifth or Sixth Amendment grounds.

27       Relying on the same portion of footnote 7 discussed in Trimble, the Eleventh Circuit concluded that  
the bar of Heck did not apply to a § 1983 suit challenging a search on Fourth Amendment grounds. See Datz  
28 v. Kilgore, 51 F.3d 252, 253 n.1 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995). In concluding that Heck did not apply, the Eleventh Circuit

1 (quoting Heck, 512 U.S. at 487 n.7). However, Plaintiff must establish that he has sustained actual,  
2 compensable injury other than the injury of conviction and imprisonment. Heck, 512 U.S. at  
3 487.

4 In his verified Complaint,<sup>3</sup> Plaintiff declares that none of the property seized during the allegedly illegal  
5 August 2, 1994 search and seizure at 1040 East Indian School Road was introduced in evidence at his  
6 subsequent trials. (See Compl. at ¶ 29). Defendants do not dispute Plaintiff's declaration. Because no  
7 evidence from this search was used against Plaintiff, the instant action for damages resulting from the allegedly  
8 illegal search of the Indian School Road property would not render his conviction invalid. See Heck, 512 U.S.

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10 did not evaluate the impact of the § 1983 action on the underlying criminal convictions. See id. Rather, the  
11 Eleventh Circuit expressly concluded that Heck is not a bar because a conviction based on evidence offered  
12 in violation of the Fourth Amendment "might still be valid" due to doctrines such as inevitable discovery. Datz,  
13 51 F.3d at 253 n.1 (emphasis added). This suggests that the Eleventh Circuit interprets footnote seven of  
14 Heck as creating an automatic exception to the bar of Heck for all claims alleging violations of the Fourth  
Amendment

15 In sharp contrast, in Schilling v. White, 58 F.3d 1081, 1085-86 (6<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995), the Sixth Circuit  
16 construed Heck as barring a § 1983 suit by a convicted person challenging a search on Fourth Amendment  
17 grounds. The Sixth Circuit concluded that, without exception, a § 1983 claimant must "show that a conviction  
18 was invalid as an element of constitutional injury." Schilling, 58 F.3d at 1086. The Sixth Circuit interpreted  
19 footnote 7 to mean that "because an illegal seizure does not automatically render a conviction invalid, an illegal  
20 seizure does not alone create a[n] injury compensable under § 1983." Id. (emphasis added).

21 This Court interprets footnote 7 of Heck and the accompanying text as providing one example of  
22 when a § 1983 action might proceed because the allegations of a constitutional violation do not "necessarily"  
23 invalidate the conviction. Heck, 512 U.S. 487 & n.7. The exception to the bar of Heck set forth in footnote  
24 7 is not limited solely to Fourth Amendment claims, but may exist for other constitutional challenges as well.  
25 For example, harmless error analysis may also apply to Fifth Amendment claims, as illustrated by the Supreme  
26 Court's citation in footnote 7 of Heck to Arizona v. Fulminate, 499 U.S. 279, 307-308 (1991) in which it held  
that the doctrine of harmless error can apply to the admission of a coerced confession under the Fifth  
Amendment. Consequently, a plaintiff convicted based upon an unconstitutionally coerced confession  
admitted into evidence at trial may, if the admission was harmless error, properly bring a § 1983 action for the  
Fifth Amendment violation if he or she sustained damages, because a successful suit under § 1983 would not  
imply the invalidity of the conviction. The analysis of whether the Heck bar applies depends not on the  
constitutional claim alleged, but on whether the claim, if successful, would invalidate the underlying criminal  
conviction. This determination must be made on a case-by-case basis.

27 <sup>3</sup> A verified Complaint is treated as an opposing affidavit to the extent it is based on personal  
28 knowledge and contains facts admissible in evidence. See Schroeder v. McDonald, 55 F.3d 454, 460 (9<sup>th</sup>  
Cir. 1995).

1 487 n.7. Accordingly, Heck does not bar the section 1983 claims pertaining to the search of the Indian School  
2 Road property.

3 Plaintiff further declares that the police seized many items during the allegedly illegal September 16,  
4 1994 search of the storage locker, but only one set of items, dildos, were subsequently introduced as evidence  
5 via photograph in his felony criminal trial. (See Compl. at ¶ 29). Plaintiff claims that this seizure was illegal  
6 on two bases. First, he claims, the seizure was the product of a facially overbroad warrant. This claim, if  
7 proven, would likely mean that the dildos should have been suppressed as the product of an illegal search.  
8 See United States v. Spilotro, 800 F.2d 959, 964, 968 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir 1986); United States v. Cardwell, 680 F.2d  
9 75, 78-79 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1982). Thus, this claim raises the question of whether the Heck bar applies.

10 In his response, Plaintiff attempts to avoid application of Heck by arguing that the dildos admitted into  
11 evidence via a photograph were irrelevant to his criminal convictions. Plaintiff was convicted of four  
12 misdemeanor charges as well as felony charges for enticement, operating a house of prostitution, and  
13 conducting an illegal enterprise. (Schwartz Dep. at pp. 5, 19, Exh. D. to Defs.' Stmt. of Facts in support of  
14 First Mot. for Summ. J. (DSOF1), dkt. # 39). Plaintiff argues that the other evidence admitted at his trial  
15 provided sufficient grounds for his convictions, including testimony of two former employees, tape recordings  
16 of conversations between Plaintiff and undercover police officer McMichael, videos taped at Plaintiff's  
17 business by undercover police officers Sterling and Sechez, and the testimony of these three undercover police  
18 officers.<sup>4</sup> (Pl.'s Resp. at 9). In his Complaint, Plaintiff alleges that the video taped by Sterling shows a nude  
19 "model masturbat[ing] herself with a 'dildo'", and the video taped by Sechez shows "one . . . [nude wom[e]n]  
20 us[ing] a dildo on the other." (Compl. at ¶¶ 15, 18). Due to the independent evidence, particularly the videos  
21 and the officers' testimony, the dildos admitted into evidence were not necessary to Plaintiff's conviction. Thus  
22 the bar of Heck does not apply to Plaintiff's claim of illegal seizure due to a facially overbroad warrant. See  
23 Heck, 512 U.S. at 486-87.

24 Plaintiff also argues that the seizure of items from the storage locker was illegal because, even if the  
25 warrant was not overbroad, the police officers executing the warrant exceeded its scope by seizing items

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27 <sup>4</sup> Plaintiff does not offer an affidavit or other evidence to establish the truth of his assertion that this  
28 other evidence was admitted at his criminal trial. However, Defendants do not dispute the introduction of this  
evidence.

1 outside the warrant's terms. Plaintiff does not claim that seizure of the dildos, the only evidence from the  
2 storage area that was admitted at trial, exceeded the scope of the warrant. Because this claim pertains only  
3 to seized property that was not utilized at trial, the bar of Heck does not apply to the claim of illegal seizure  
4 exceeding the scope of the warrant.

5 In sum, Heck does not bar Plaintiff's § 1983 Fourth Amendment claims alleging illegal searches of both  
6 the Indian School Road property and the storage locker.

7 **B. Whether Genuine Issues of Fact Remain Regarding the Legality of the**  
8 **Searches and Seizures**

9 Plaintiff challenges the search and seizure of items at the Indian School Road property on the ground  
10 that certain items seized were not within the scope of the search warrant. The warrant authorized seizure of  
11 the following:

- 12 1. Any and all alcoholic beverages stored at this location for sale.
- 13 2. Any and all currency which by its storage appears to be related to the alcohol that is  
14 being sold.
- 15 3. Any and all bills or paperwork [t]hat tend to show ownership, occupancy of  
16 the listed premises.
- 17 4. Any and all receipts for the purchase of alcoholic beverages.
- 18 5. Any and all adult movies or equipment used to facilitate the showing of these  
19 adult movies.

20 (Search Warrant attached as part of Exh. 1 to Notice of Filing Executed Warrants, Dkt. # 94). The warrant  
21 further stated that the listed items would constitute evidence tending to show that Schwartz had committed the  
22 offenses of selling alcohol without a state liquor license and violating zoning ordinances governing the running  
23 of an "adult", i.e., pornographic, theater. (Id.)

24 Plaintiff argues that the warrant authorized seizure of only the "adult" video tapes totaling in the range  
25 of twenty to thirty of the approximately 130 video tapes seized. He adds that many of the tapes were clearly  
26 marked "Barney," "Sesame Street," etc. Plaintiff's argument fails because the police officers conducting the  
27 search were not required to rely on the label on the video tape to determine its content or to view every video  
28 tape in entirety on the premises before seizing it. The video tapes fall within the scope of the warrant provision  
authorizing seizure of adult movies.

1 Plaintiff further argues that the warrant provision authorizing seizure of “equipment used to facilitate  
2 the showing of these adult movies” did not encompass seizure of the three camcorders, electronic equipment  
3 used to make movies rather than to show them. Defendants respond that the affidavit upon which the warrant  
4 is based establishes that patrons of Plaintiffs’ business were allowed to record films that could be classified  
5 as “adult” and thus the seizure was within the scope of the warrant as construed by reference to the affidavit.  
6 An affidavit may supply the particularity required of a search warrant if the affidavit accompanies the warrant  
7 and is expressly incorporated therein. United States v. McGrew, 122 F.3d 847, 849 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997). Plaintiff  
8 does not challenge Defendants’ reliance on the affidavit; rather, he argues that, even when construed in  
9 conjunction with the affidavit, the warrant does not authorize seizure of the camcorders.

10 The affidavit states that two undercover officers paid for “nude photo shoot[s]” of women employed  
11 by Plaintiff. The term “photo shoot” suggests photography but is broad enough to encompass video recording.  
12 Taken together with the information in the affidavit, the warrant phrase “equipment used to facilitate the  
13 showing of these adult movies” is broad enough to encompass the camcorders because equipment that may  
14 have been used to make adult movies helps “facilitate the showing of these . . . movies.” Seizure of the  
15 camcorders was proper.

16 Plaintiff also argues that the warrant language authorizing seizure of adult movies did not authorize the  
17 seizure of two other items listed on the report: “photos [of] nude woman ‘Bobbi’” and “stack of photos of  
18 women.” Defendants respond that the adult theater zoning code ordinance set forth in the affidavit prohibits  
19 projecting on a screen for exhibition photos depicting women engaged in sexual activities or depicting  
20 “specified anatomical areas” of women. Defendants also note, as a general matter, that, during the course of  
21 a legal search, officers may seize items in plain view other than those listed in the warrant if the incriminatory  
22 nature of the items is immediately apparent to the officers. United States v. Hudson, 100 F.3d 1409, 1420  
23 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1996), cert. denied, 522 U.S. 939 (1997). In a search for “adult movies or equipment used to  
24 facilitate the showing of these adult movies,” the photograph of a nude woman is incriminatory in nature  
25 because it is additional evidence of the availability of pornographic material for exhibition in violation of the  
26 adult theater zoning code. However, a genuine issue of material fact exists with respect to the “stack of photos  
27 of women” because the record does not contain information about the content of these photographs and thus  
28

1 the Court cannot determine whether the photos were of an “incriminatory nature . . . immediately apparent”  
2 for purposes of the plain view exception to the warrant requirement. Id.

3 Plaintiff proceeds to challenge the search and seizure of items at the storage locker on the ground that  
4 the warrant was facially overbroad. The warrant authorized seizure of the following:

- 5 1. Any paperwork consisting of bills, applications, diaries of business transactions which  
6 tend to show the conducting of an illegal enterprise.
- 7 2. Any video tapes which may contain sexual conduct between female  
8 employees and customers of David Schwartz.

9 (Search Warrant attached as part of Exh. 2 to Notice of Filing Executed Warrants, Dkt. # 94). The warrant  
10 further states that the listed items would constitute evidence of the offense of “[t]he illegal control of an  
11 enterprise.”

12 Once again, Defendants rely on the affidavit on which the warrant is based to supply the particularity  
13 missing from the face of the warrant and Plaintiff does not challenge Defendants’ ability to do so. The affidavit  
14 provides, in relevant part:

15 Your affiant made contact with the resident of [1040 East Indian School Road] in an  
16 undercover capacity and found that the business was a house of prostitution. During the  
17 daytime hours customers were coming into the location and paying to video tape females who  
18 worked there and prostitution was taking place during the taping. The resident and person  
19 managing the business was found to be David Schwartz, as described, and working there with  
20 him was Lisa Hartley, as described. Undercover detectives went into the location and video  
21 taped female employees of David Schwartz and an act of prostitution was completed.

22 Witnesses advised through interviews that David Schwartz video taped and kept the tapes of  
23 several incidents where prostitution was performed. . . . [A] self proclaimed partner in the  
24 illegal enterprise . . . advised that she was informed by Lisa Hartley and a friend of hers “John”  
25 that they had moved . . . property from 1040 E. Indian School Road to a storage locker. The  
26 storage locker was found to be located at 5728 N. 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue. . . . The evidence was to be  
27 boxes that contained . . . paperwork which would include bills, applications, and diaries of  
28 business transactions. There was also to be boxes containing video tapes which could contain  
sexual conduct between female employees and customers o[f] David Schwartz.

[After Schwartz attempted to retrieve property from the locker rented to Hartley], [t]he  
managers of the storage unit requested that your affiant advise Schwartz that he was not  
allowed to remove property from the unit without the presence of Lisa Hartley. While doing  
this David Schwartz stated to me that some of the property in the rented unit by Lisa Hartley  
was his property from his business at 1040 E. Indian School Rd.

(Aff. attached as part of Exh. 2 to Notice of Filing Executed Warrants, Dkt. # 94). This affidavit clearly  
establishes the nature of the “illegal enterprise” referenced in the warrant — a house of prostitution. Construed



1 with the affidavit, the warrant is not facially overbroad because it authorizes seizure of a variety of records  
2 tending to show operation of a house of prostitution.

3 Plaintiff also argues that the officers executing this second warrant seized many items outside the  
4 warrant's scope. Plaintiff lists these items in his Response to Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment at  
5 pages 8 and 9. The warrant provision authorizing seizure of "video tapes which may contain sexual conduct  
6 between female employees and customers of David Schwartz" encompasses item 67, "[b]ox containing  
7 numerous video tapes" and item 79, "8 mm video tapes." As stated above, the officers did not need to  
8 examine the content of the video tapes before seizing them — the fact that the items are tapes, along with the  
9 affidavit linking Schwartz to these tapes, is sufficient.

10 Most of the other seized items that, according to Plaintiff, fall outside the scope of the warrant are  
11 photographs, and many of them contain images of nude or partially nude women, men, or girls. Photographs  
12 depicting nudity, partial nudity, or genitalia are listed as item numbers 9, 26, 29, 33, 37, 39, and 58. Those  
13 items described merely as photographs, usually of women, or albums containing such photographs are  
14 numbers 2, 20, 23, 38, 39,<sup>5</sup> 47, 66, and 69. Other items listed are materials used to make or store  
15 photographs, including photo albums, a camera, and negatives, listed as item numbers 3, 12, 39, 41, 48, 59,  
16 and 66. The list also includes sexually-oriented magazines and newspapers and a "[s]exual [p]osition  
17 [h]andbook," specifically item numbers 8, 38, and 60. The final item Plaintiff challenges is simply described  
18 as "[t]hree posters."

19 As Defendant argues, the photographs depicting nudity, partial nudity, or genitalia, as well as item  
20 number 23, "[m]iscellaneous photos and model's personal information," were properly seized pursuant to the  
21 plain-view exception as incriminatory evidence that Schwartz was running a house of prostitution. See  
22 Hudson, 100 F.3d at 1420. The incriminatory nature is particularly clear given the information in the affidavit  
23 indicating that Schwartz allowed customers to video tape — photography is merely another means of  
24 recording visual images. Based on this information, the officers also appropriately seized the photography  
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26  
27 <sup>5</sup> Some item numbers appear more than once because the numbered description references more  
28 than one item.

1 materials — albums, film, a camera, and negatives. The sexually-oriented magazines, newspapers, and  
2 handbook likewise constitute incriminatory information within plain view.

3 However, a genuine issue of material fact exists with respect to whether the police officers had the  
4 authority to seize the other photographs pursuant to the plain-view exception. As stated above in the analysis  
5 of the “stack of photos of women” seized at the Indian School Road address, the record does not provide  
6 additional information about the content of these photographs and thus the Court cannot determine whether  
7 the photos were of an “incriminatory nature . . . immediately apparent.” Id. The same is true of the three  
8 posters seized.

9 The Defendant police officers argue that, to the extent genuine issues of material fact remain regarding  
10 the Fourth Amendment claim, they are entitled to qualified immunity for seizing the listed items. The officers  
11 are entitled to qualified immunity if a reasonable officer could have believed the conduct at issue was lawful  
12 under clearly established law. Newell v. Sauser, 79 F.3d 115, 117 (9th Cir. 1996). Long-established and  
13 clear rules of criminal procedure allow officers to seize evidence only pursuant to a lawful warrant or one of  
14 the valid warrant exceptions, including the exception for incriminating items within plain view. See Horton v.  
15 California, 496 U.S. 128, 133 & n.6, 135 (1990) (quoting Mincey v. Arizona, 437 U.S. 385, 390 (1978)).  
16 Whether the officers reasonably could have believed that it was lawful to seize the remaining items, largely  
17 photographs, requires greater information about the content of those items. Thus, a genuine issue of material  
18 fact exists regarding the officers’ entitlement to qualified immunity. Summary judgment on qualified immunity  
19 grounds will be denied.

## 20 **II. Discovery Deadline**

21 At a status hearing on June 22, 1999, the court ordered the parties to file by July 9, 1999 a stipulated  
22 proposed order regarding a discovery deadline. On August 16, 1999, Defendants filed a “Notice of Inability  
23 to File Discovery Stipulation.” The Notice informed the Court that the parties had agreed to depose several  
24 people, including Plaintiff, on July 7 and 8, 1999. However, the parties were unable to reach any further  
25 agreements regarding discovery.

26 In response to the “Notice of Inability to File Discovery Stipulation,” the Court set a second status  
27 hearing for October 18, 1999 and instructed the parties to file by October 14, 1999 a joint brief of their  
28 positions regarding completion of discovery. On October 14, Plaintiff filed a Motion to Amend the Complaint

1 to Name an Additional Party. This motion is currently pending before the Magistrate Judge. The parties' joint  
2 status report filed October 15, 1999 indicates that the potential new defendant already has been deposed and  
3 plaintiff anticipates that only requests for admission will be served upon him. The report adds that Plaintiff will  
4 be serving requests for admissions upon all defendants and anticipates needing an additional two months to  
5 complete discovery. The report further states that Defendants "object to any additional discovery at this point  
6 because [the] discovery deadline previously agreed to by the parties has passed." At the second status  
7 hearing on October 18, the Court indicated that it would set relevant deadlines.

8 A review of the record indicates that both parties continued to engage in discovery after expiration  
9 of the latest discovery deadline. In the Orders docketed on the dates shown in the table below, the discovery  
10 deadline and other deadlines were established and then extended:

Deadlines				
	<u>Date of order in which deadline was set</u>			
<u>Matter to Which Deadline Applies</u>	<u>2/3/97</u>	<u>5/22/97</u>	<u>9/22/97</u>	<u>3/25/98</u>
Discovery	5/26/97	8/22/97	9/26/97	none
Dispositive Motions	5/12/97	9/19/97	10/10/97	5/29/98
Pretrial Order	9/1/97	1/23/98	1/23/98	6/30/98 or 60 days after ruling on dispositive motions.

18 The extension granted on March 25, 1998 was in response to Defendants' Motion to extend time for filing  
19 both dispositive motions and the joint pretrial statement. As the table indicates, Magistrate Judge Sitver, to  
20 whom the case was assigned for resolution of nondispositive motions, did not extend the discovery deadline  
21 at that time. Thereafter, however, Plaintiff filed a Motion for Issuance of a Discovery Scheduling Order. By  
22 Order docketed June 23, Judge Sitver granted the Motion and allowed Plaintiff to serve 10 interrogatories  
23 on each Defendant by June 26, 1998. Plaintiff filed a Notice of Service of Discovery of Interrogatories on  
24 each of the five Defendants on July 1, 1998. The record indicates that, with the exception of these  
25 interrogatories, the discovery deadline expired on September 26, 1997.

26 Thereafter, the parties continued to engage in discovery despite the passage of the discovery deadline  
27 and their failure to request additional extensions. Defendants were the first and most frequent offenders. On  
28

1 October 19, 1998, Defendants filed a notice of serving Plaintiff with their first set of non-uniform  
2 interrogatories. On May 13, 1999, Defendants filed a notice of serving Plaintiff with their first request for  
3 production of documents. Thereafter, the depositions referenced in the joint status report, conducted by both  
4 parties, occurred in July, 1999. Finally, Defendants filed a notice of serving Plaintiff with another request for  
5 production of documents on July 19, 1999.

6 Given Defendants' repeated discovery requests after the expiration of the deadline, the Court  
7 concludes that neither of the parties will be prejudiced by extension of the discovery deadline for  
8 approximately six weeks to Monday, February 28, 2000. The parties are instructed to limit their discovery  
9 requests, seeking only information that could lead to relevant evidence regarding the remaining claims, a  
10 portion of the original Fourth Amendment claim plus the supplemental state claims of negligence and  
11 conversion. Following the Magistrate Judge's ruling on the Motion to Amend, and his determination of  
12 whether additional deadlines are necessary for discovery and dispositive motions, the Court will set deadlines  
13 for submission of the proposed final pretrial order and for the final pretrial conference.

14 Accordingly,

15 **IT IS ORDERED** vacating the portion of the prior Order dated March 31, 1999 that denied  
16 Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment on the Fourth Amendment claim.

17 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** granting Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment on the Fourth  
18 Amendment claim in part and denying it in part. Summary judgment is denied with respect to the issue of  
19 whether the Defendants violated the Fourth Amendment by seizing from the property located on Indian  
20 School Road the item described in the inventory as: "stack of photos of women" and by seizing from the  
21 storage locker those items described in the inventory merely as photographs, usually of women, or albums  
22 containing such photographs, numbered in the inventory as follows: 2, 20, 38, 39, 47, 66, and 69, as well as  
23 the items described as "three posters". Summary judgment is granted to Defendants with respect to the issue  
24 of whether Defendants violated the Fourth Amendment by seizing all of the other items.

25 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** extending the discovery deadline to Monday, February 28, 2000.

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**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the parties are to inform the court whether or not they request this Court to appoint a judge to conduct a settlement conference. The parties shall inform the Court by filing a notice no later than Friday, March 10, 2000.

DATED this \_\_\_\_ day of January, 2000.

ROSLYN O. SILVER  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

copies to all counsel of record